



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,888	02/12/2002	Akira Ogasawara	111937	3559

25944 7590 01/13/2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

SMITH, ARTHUR A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2851

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,888

Applicant(s)

OGASAWARA, AKIRA

Examiner

Arthur A Smith

Art Unit

2851

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-15, 18-22, 25-29, 32 and 33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 April 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 19 September 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8, 11-15, 18, 19, 27-29, 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shaper et al. (USPAPN 2002/0009296 A1).

In reference to claim 1, Shaper et al. discloses a photographing system in which a flash device is controlled by a signal that is transmitted from a camera to the flash device through a radio communication, paragraph 2, wherein: at least one of the camera and the flash device is provided with a unique identification code for identification of the camera or the flash device, paragraph 22; and the flash device comprises a collating section for collating a unique identification code that is transmitted from the camera by using radio waves as a medium, with a unique identification code originally provided in the flash device, paragraphs 18 and 27.

In reference to claims 2, 3, 7 and 8, Shaper et al. discloses wherein the flash device is provided with the unique identification code, paragraph 22; the camera has, in advance, the unique identification code of the flash device transmitted through the connection of the camera and the flash device (Note: the advance connection is made

Art Unit: 2851

through the initial radio communication where the camera is transmitted a plurality of identification codes before a match is made), and in controlling the flash device the camera sends the unique identification code of the flash device to the flash device by using radio waves as a medium; and the collating section collates the unique identification code of the flash device that is transmitted from the camera by using radio waves as a medium, with the unique identification code of the flash device provided in the flash device, paragraphs 18 and 27.

In reference to claims 4, 5, 11 and 12, Shaper et al. discloses wherein the number of the flash devices is plural, and each of the plurality of flash devices independently stores the unique identification code of the camera, paragraphs 21 and 27.

In reference to claim 6, Shaper et al. discloses a photographic information transmission system in which a signal relating to photographing is transmitted from a first hand-held terminal to a second hand-held terminal by radio transmission to control a second hand-held terminal, paragraph 2, wherein: at least one of the first hand-held terminal and the second hand-held terminal is provided with a unique identification code for identification of the first hand-held terminal or the second hand-held terminal, paragraph 22; and the second hand-held terminal comprises a collating section for collating a unique identification code that is transmitted from the first hand-held terminal by using radio waves as a medium, with a unique identification code originally provided in the second hand-held terminal, paragraphs 18 and 27.

In reference to claims 13-15, 18 and 19, Shaper et al. discloses wherein the first hand-held terminal is a camera, ref. 200, and the second hand-held terminal is a flash, ref. 300, paragraph 20.

In reference to claims 27-29, 32 and 33 Shaper et al. discloses wherein the first hand-held terminal is a camera and the second hand-held terminal is also a camera (photographic equipment), paragraph 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20-22, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaper et al. (USPAPN 2002/0009296 A1).

In reference to claims 20-22, 25 and 26 Shaper et al. discloses wherein the first hand-held terminal is a camera and the second hand-held terminal is another photographic device, paragraph 2. Shaper et al. does not specifically disclose that the second hand-held terminal is a cellular phone. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to realize that a cellular phone could be considered a photographic device. Recently cellular phones have begun to incorporate cameras to transmit visual data along with the standard audio data. Hence, the control technique of Sharper et al. would be easily applicable to a cellular phone.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The examiner is unable to find any pertinent prior art of record that teaches the transfer of the unique identification code of the flash device being transmitted in advance through the physical connection of the camera and the flash device.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur A Smith whose telephone number is (703) 605 1228. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays during the same hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Russ Adams can be reached on (703) 308 2847. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872 9318 for regular communications and (703) 872 9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0956.


Application/Control Number: 10/072,888

Page 6

Art Unit: 2851

AAS

January 7, 2003


RUSSELL ADAMS
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800